## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 20, 2002 LB 1310

CLERK: Mr. President, the amendment would read as follows, and I believe it's being input into the system, to amend FA917, which is the committee amendment that has been adopted on page 15, line 12, strike the word "only". (FA934, Legislative Journal page 1046.)

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Was stricken, right.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: We're now back to debating that substitute amendment. Senator Chambers, you've already explained it. I will let you continue if you care to, at this point.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I don't think it will take long now. I can understand the confusion. Once I saw the way that I had drafted it, instead of doing what I intended to do, I would have done much more. And if you had adopted that, it would not have been what I wanted. So now to deal with what is before you, if we strike the word "only" from the existing law, it means that the fund exists just as it does now. Money can be spent by DEQ only for the purposes listed in the bill. But by removing the word "only", we do not put ourselves in the bind if a future contingency arises of having to circumvent that word "only". Strike "only" and DEQ is not given any additional authority to spend this money. DEQ is shackled by the language that will be left in the bill. If DEQ or anybody else felt that the money in that fund should go for some other purpose, that other purpose could not be achieved unless the Legislature enacted amendatory legislation. striking "only", we put this fund on the same footing as all other funds that were created statutorily. We set out what the If a point is reached, as has been reached this purpose is. session, forgetting how I feel about what we're doing, the money can be taken, as it is being taken this time, but you won't have to listen to somebody up here like myself browbeat you about violating a principle or a standard which seemed to suggest that this fund is to be treated differently from every other one that exists because of the existence in the statute of the word "only". When something is as simple as this, the longer the explanation, the more befuddled people may become, so I'm going to stop now, suggest that you adopt the amendment. But if you